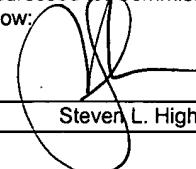




CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

January 9, 2004
Date


Steven L. Highlander

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

P.E. Rakoczy and I.J. Constable

Serial No.: 09/065,082

Filed: July 16, 1998

For: HYALURONIC ACID AS DNA CARRIER
FOR GENE THERAPY AND VEGF
ANTISENSE DNA TO TREAT
ABNORMAL RETINAL
VASCULARIZATION

Group Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Sean McGarry

Atty. Dkt. No.: DACO:004US

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO
OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time of three months to and including January 9, 2004 in which to respond to the Office Action dated September 9, 2003.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, a check in the amount of \$950.00 is enclosed, which is the process fee (\$950.00) for a three-month extension of time.

01/14/2004 BSAYASI1 00000055 09065082

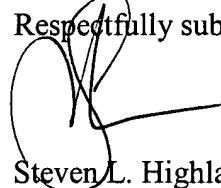
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If the check is inadvertently omitted, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/DACO:009US/SLH.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Highlander
Reg. No. 37,642
Attorney for Applicants

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.
600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2400
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 536-3184

Date: January 9, 2004